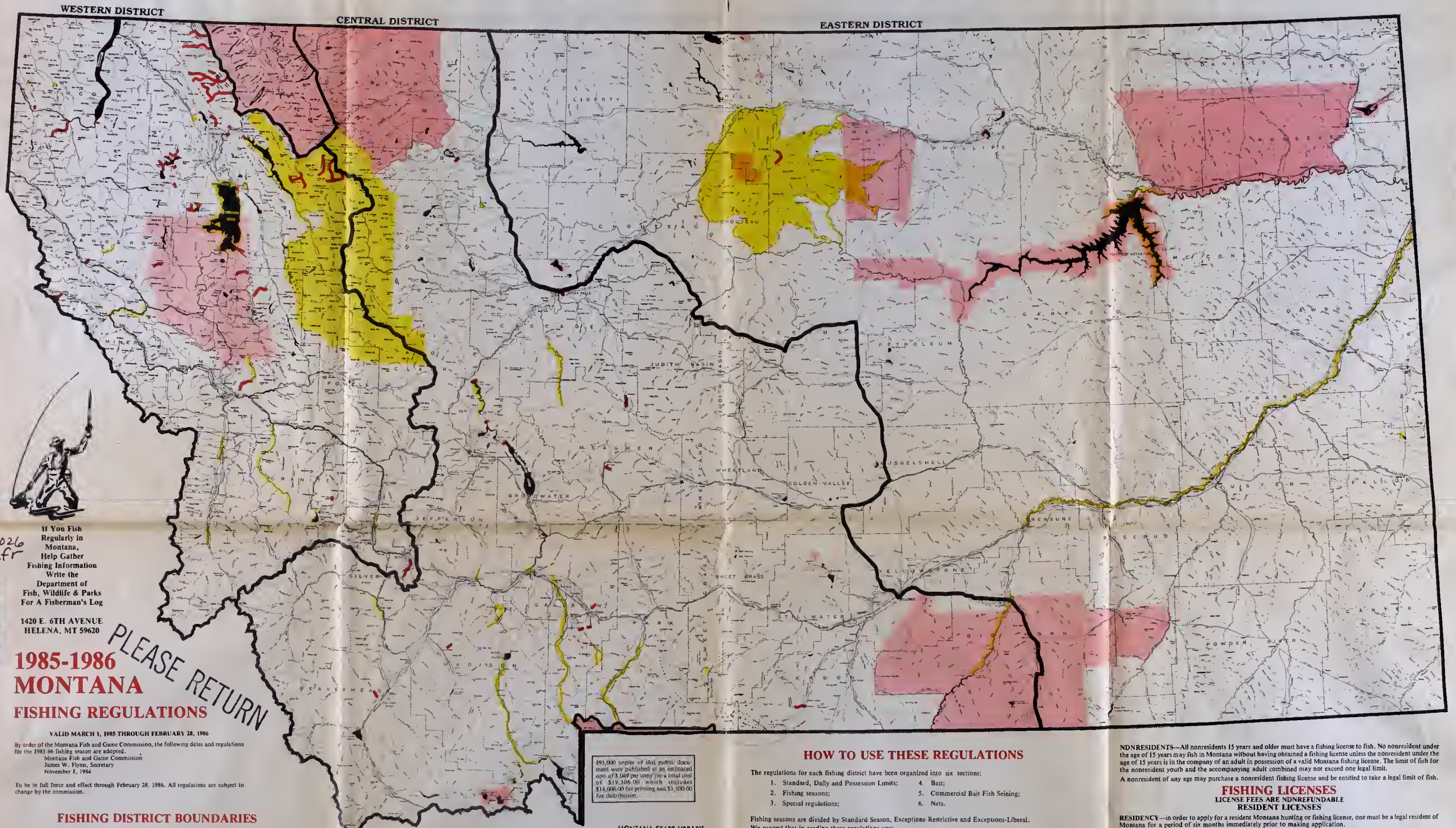

If You Fish
Regularly in
Montana,
Help Gather
Fishing Information
Write the
Department of
Fish, Wildlife & Parks
For A Fisherman's Log

1420 E. 6TH AVENUE
HELENA, MT 59620

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PLEASE RETURN

1985-1986 MONTANA
FISHING REGULATIONS

VALID MARCH 1, 1985 THROUGH FEBRUARY 28, 1986

By order of the Montana Fish and Game Commission, the following dates and regulations for the 1985-86 fishing season are adopted.

Montana Fish and Game Commission
James W. Flynn, Secretary
November 8, 1984

To be in full force and effect through February 28, 1986. All regulations are subject to change by the commission.

FISHING DISTRICT BOUNDARIES

WESTERN FISHING DISTRICT Includes all waters in Montana West of the Continental Divide.

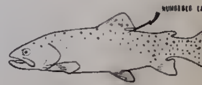
CENTRAL FISHING DISTRICT Includes all waters in Montana lying east of the Continental Divide, (including the Belly and St. Marys Drainages) and waters lying west of the following described boundary.

Interstate 15 from Montana—Canadian border south to Northwest Bypass Junction near Great Falls, east on said Bypass to Smelter Avenue, east on Smelter Avenue to 15th Street, south on said street to north bank of Missouri River, east along high water mark of Missouri River to Black Eagle Dam, across said dam and following high water mark along the south bank of the Missouri River, easterly to State Route 80 at Fort Benton; southeasterly along State Route 80 to its junction with State Route 81, easterly on State Route 81 to its junction with U.S. Highway 191, northeastery along U.S. Highway 191 to its junction with State Route 19, south on State Route 19 to its junction with U.S. Highway 87, south on U.S. Highway 87 to its junction with U.S. Highway 12, west on U.S. Highway 12 to its junction with State Route 3, south on State Route 3 to its junction with Interstate 94, northeasterly on Interstate 94 to its junction with Interstate 90, easterly and southerly on Interstate 90 to the Montana-Wyoming border.

EASTERN FISHING DISTRICT (includes all waters lying east of the central fishing district. For the boundary description, see **Central Fishing District.**)

If you catch a tagged fish, please advise the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks of the:

1. Tag number and color
2. Date fish was caught
3. Species of fish
4. Length and Weight (close as possible)
5. Location of Catch (river - lake and specific area in miles from or to the nearest landmark)
6. Name and address of fisherman.



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COLOR CODES

Colored portions of map indicate special regulations apply there. For details refer to matching colors under regulations by district.

FISHING DISTRICT BOUNDARIES	▬
CLOSED TO FISHING ALL YEAR	▬
SEASONS, HOURS, LIMITS, TACKLE OR FISHING FROM BOATS MORE RESTRICTIVE THAN STANDARD REGULATIONS FOR DISTRICT, ALSO CHILDREN'S FISHING WATERS	🟨
INDIAN RESERVATIONS, NATIONAL PARKS AND NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGES (Contact Agency for any Additional Restrictions)	🟥

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HOW TO USE THESE REGULATIONS

The regulations for each fishing district have been organized into six sections:

1. Standard, Daily and Possession Limits;
2. Fishing seasons;
3. Special regulations;
4. Bait;
5. Commercial Bait Fish Seining;
6. Nets.

Fishing seasons are divided by Standard Season, Exceptions-Restrictive and Exceptions-Liberal.

We suggest that in reading these regulations you:

1. Acquaint yourself with the Statewide Standard Regulations on opposite side.
2. Locate on the map the area where you plan to fish. Note if there is any color (red, yellow, or pink) in this area and which fishing district you will be fishing in.
3. Turn the sheet over and find the appropriate district regulations. If there is no color on the map in the area where you intend to fish, the **Standard Daily and Possession Limits plus Standard Fishing Seasons** for this district (along with the **Standard Statewide Regulations**) will tell all you have to know for regular fishing with a single line.
4. Scan the **Exceptions—Liberal** for the fishing district for any of the more liberal regulations you may want to take advantage of.

If the area where you plan to fish is flagged with red or yellow on the map, there are special restrictions which you must become aware of. These will be found in the **Exceptions—Restrictive** or **Special Regulations** for the district adjacent to the color bar for the color involved.

A water in one of the pink areas on the map is in either an Indian Reservation, National Park, or National Wildlife Refuge. You should ask the appropriate agency for a copy of its fishing regulations.

LICENSE REQUIREMENTS

A fishing license is a permit for the lawful holder thereof to fish for and possess any fish within the state as authorized by fishing regulations. This includes commercial whitefishing in which case the license must be validated by an authorized Fish, Wildlife, and Parks Department employee. There is no charge for this validation.

Residents—Each resident 15 years and older must have a resident fishing license in order to fish. Residents 12 through 14 years of age must have a conservation license to fish. Residents under the age of 12 need no license to fish but must observe limits and all other fishing regulations.

Free fishing permits are available from heads of respective institutions for resident patients at Veterans' administration hospitals and for **residents** of state institutions other than the state penitentiary.

Residents who are certified as permanently and substantially disabled, as designated by rules of the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks must have a "Disabled Persons Conservation License" in order to fish.

NONRESIDENTS—All nonresidents 15 years and older must have a fishing license to fish. No nonresident under the age of 15 years may fish in Montana without having obtained a fishing license unless the nonresident under the age of 15 years is in the company of an adult in possession of a valid Montana fishing license. The limit of fish for the nonresident youth and the accompanying adult combined may not exceed one legal limit.

A nonresident of any age may purchase a nonresident fishing license and be entitled to take a legal limit of fish.

FISHING LICENSES
LICENSE FEES ARE NONREFUNDABLE
RESIDENT LICENSES

RESIDENCY—in order to apply for a resident Montana hunting or fishing license, one must be a legal resident of Montana for a period of six months immediately prior to making application.

Except for holders of Resident Sportsman Licenses, conservation licenses are prerequisite to purchase of fishing licenses.

Conservation License	$ 2.00
Residents 12 through 14 years of age and residents 62 or older need only a conservation license to fish and hunt upland game birds other than turkeys.	
Resident Disabled Persons Conservation License.	
Residents who are certified as permanently and substantially disabled, as designated by rules of the Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks Department, may apply for an annual "disabled persons conservation license" which authorizes fishing and hunting of upland game birds other than turkeys	$ 2.00
Resident Fishing License	$ 8.00
Resident Sportsman's License (includes Conservation License, 1 deer, 1 elk, 1 black bear, game birds and fishing)	$ 35.00
Paddlefish Tags (needed for Yellowstone River) limit of two in 1985	Two for $ 3.00

NONRESIDENT FISHING LICENSES

A Conservation License is required before fishing licenses may be purchased. You may apply for other licenses at the same time you apply for a conservation license.

Nonresident Conservation License (See "License Requirements", this page)	$ 2.00
Nonresident Season Fishing License	$ 30.00
Nonresident Temporary Fishing License (2 day)	$ 6.00
Nonresident Paddlefish Tag (needed for Yellowstone River) limit of two in 1985	Two for $ 3.00
Nonresident Fish, Bird and Big Game License (available from, Helena, Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks office only) includes an elk license, deer "A" license, black bear license, authorizes hunting of game birds and fishing. Quota of 17,000.	$300.00

STANDARD STATEWIDE FISHING REGULATIONS

COLOR CODES

🟥 Closed or limited to fishing all year.

🟨 Dates, hours or limits more restrictive than general.

DAILY AND POSSESSION LIMITS:

When weighing and measuring fish to determine limits, fish may have entrails removed but must have their heads and tails attached to their bodies

Daily limit shall mean the numbers or pounds of fish that may be legally taken during a calendar day. No person shall take or possess more than the daily limit of fish unless otherwise specified under district regulations.

Possession limit shall mean the number or pounds of fish which may be in one person's possession anytime in any form — fresh, stored in freezers or lockers, salted, smoked, dried, canned or otherwise preserved

Refer to district regulations for respective daily and possession limits

A person fishing on a water may possess only a limit allowed for that water.

SEASONS:

All dates given are inclusive dates. Where dates specify an open season, fishing is closed throughout the remainder of the year. An open season is for all species unless otherwise specified

LURES AND BAIT:

Artificial lures shall include any lure (including flies) that is man-made in imitation of or as a substitute for natural bait. Artificial lures do not include fish eggs or other chemically treated or processed natural baits or foods.

Sculpins may be used live for bait statewide, except in waters limited to artificial lures and in the Madison River between McAtee Bridge and Ennis Lake. Otherwise live fish may not be used for bait except as provided under district regulations

Carp, goldfish, or rainbow smelt may not be used in any form as fish bait. Other fish may be used dead as bait if they have their heads and entrails removed, or if they have been preserved or frozen, except in waters limited to artificial lures only

Persons fishing in waters closed to the use of live fish for bait may not have live bait fish in their immediate possession.

CHECKING STATIONS:

Fishermen and hunters are required to stop at checking stations on their routes of travel to and from fishing and hunting areas.

FISHING HOURS:

Fishing is allowed at all hours during open fishing seasons except on Holter Lake

ICE FISHING SHELTERS:

Special regulations on ice fishing shelters apply in:

- Bearpaw Lake
- Beaver Creek Reservoir
- Browns Lake (near Ovando)
- Deadman's Basin Reservoir
- Echo Lake (near Anaconda)
- Georgetown Lake
- Hauser Lake
- Helena Valley Reservoir
- Lake Frances
- Lake Helena

See Ice Fishing Shelter Regulations available from Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks

GAME FISH:

All species of the family Salmonidae (chars, trout, salmon, grayling and whitefish); all species of the genus Stizostedion (sandpike or sauger and walleye pike or yellow pike-perch), all species of the genus Esox (northern pike, pickerel and muskellunge); all species of the genus Micropterus (bass), all species of the genus Polyodon (paddlefish), all species of the family Acipenseridae (sturgeon); all species of the genus Lota (burbot or ling), and the species Ictalurus punctatus (channel catfish).

MEANS OF TAKING:

Only a single line with hook or hooks, with or without a pole, may be used for fishing unless otherwise specified in district regulations. The pole or line must be in immediate control.

These provisions also apply to commercial whitefish fishing as provided under district regulations.

Setlines may be used as provided under district regulations. Setlines are lines that may be unattended. They may include poles and tipups

A screen or a net not to exceed four (4) feet in length may be used to take sculpins (Cottus) for bait. Otherwise, use or possession of minnow seines, snares, or fish traps in unlawful except as provided under district regulations

CLOSED WATERS:

All waters operated by the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as fish hatcheries and rearing ponds shall be closed to fishing at all time. Water in which the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks is operating fish traps and other special structures shall be closed to fishing as posted. Certain water supply lakes and streams and hazardous areas are closed as posted.

CHILDREN'S FISHING WATERS:

Waters posted as Children's Fishing Waters are closed to fishing during the entire year to persons thirteen (13) years of age and older.

BEAVER PONDS, IRRIGATION CANALS AND DITCHES:

Impoundments formed by beaver dams on streams are governed by the same regulations as govern the streams. Man-made irrigation canals and ditches are open year around unless shown otherwise under district regulations.

NATIONAL PARKS, INDIANS RESERVATIONS AND WILDLIFE REFUGES:

Certain waters on National Parks, Indian Reservations and National Wildlife Refuges may have special regulations or permits that apply to their individual areas. Specific information may be obtained from the headquarters of the park, reservation or refuge involved.

USE OF BOATS:

The use of boats is prohibited or restricted on many waters. See Boating Regulations available from Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks

SIZE OF HOLE FOR ICE FISHING:

The maximum size hole that may be cut for ice fishing is 144 square inches. This does not apply to waters open to fishing through the ice with spear or gig.

IT IS UNLAWFUL:

to transport or introduce any fish or viable fish eggs into any waters;

to refuse to show one's license upon demand;

to loan or transfer your fishing or hunting license or tags to any person;

to sell game fish except as prescribed by Montana Fish and Game Commission regulations.

to leave or dump any dead animal; fish; garbage or litter in or on any state or private property where public recreation is permitted;

to use any carbide, lime, giant powder, dynamite, or other explosive compounds, or any corrosive or narcotic poison or to have any of the same in one's possession within one hundred (100) feet of any streams where fish are found, for the purpose of stunning or killing fish;

to hire or retain an unlicensed outfitter or guide;

to waste any part of game fish suitable for food.

It is unlawful to operate upon Montana waters a boat which;

is not properly licensed and numbered with registration card carried in boat;

is not carrying equipment required by the Montana Water Safety Law (copies available from Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks)

does not have one serviceable, Coast Guard approved personal flotation device for each passenger plus one type IV PFD in boats over 16 feet. Persons under 12 years old must wear PFD's when boat is in motion and is less than 26 feet long

TO REPORT VIOLATIONS: If you are unable to contact a local warden or member of the sheriff's office, call Toll-Free 800-332-6117.

WESTERN FISHING DISTRICT

(also see Standard Statewide Regulations)

STANDARD DAILY AND POSSESSION LIMITS

Unless otherwise specified, (see Special Regulations) the following limits are both daily and possession limits:

Each fisherman may take all of the following limits. However, a person may possess only the limit allowed for the water on which he is fishing

LIMIT 1.

Brown trout, cutthroat trout, rainbow trout, golden trout, lake trout, grayling, and bull trout (Dolly Varden), (note special bull trout restrictions on portion of district listed below).

For Streams—Five (5) fish, only one (1) of which may exceed 14 inches

except

Clark Fork River from Milltown Dam to Idaho border where Limit 1 is five (5) fish only one (1) of which may exceed 16 inches and tributaries to Georgetown Lake where Limit 1 is five (5) trout of any species (including brook trout)

or

All Lakes—Ten (10) pounds and one (1) fish not to exceed ten (10) fish. Two (2) fish may be taken regardless of weight limit

except

Flathead Lake and Hungry Horse Reservoir where Limit 1 is five (5) fish daily and in possession. Either one (1) bull trout (Dolly Varden) and one (1) lake trout or two (2) lake trout and zero (0) bull trout may be included in the catch; Georgetown Lake and Echo Lake in Granite County where Limit 1 is five (5) trout of any species (including brook trout).

BULL TROUT CREEL LIMIT—FLATHEAD DRAINAGE

For all lakes and streams in the Flathead drainage above Kerr Dam including the Stillwater, Swan, and Whitefish drainages. No more than one (1) bull trout (Dolly Varden) may be included in the daily catch.

LIMIT 2.

Brook trout—Ten (10) pounds not to exceed twenty (20) fish

except

Georgetown and Echo Lakes and tributaries near Anaconda where brook trout are included in Limit 1.

LIMIT 3.

Bass—Five (5) fish except Carpenter (Tetrault) Lake—twenty (20) fish.

LIMIT 4.

Northern pike—Fifteen (15) fish

LIMIT 5.

Angling

Salmon—All rivers and streams in Flathead drainage north of Flathead Lake, five (5) salmon daily and in possession.

Flathead Lake, Swan River downstream from Bigfork Dam, Brenneman Slough, Whitefish Lake, Lake Mary Ronan, Clearwater drainage—Ten (10) fish daily and in possession.

No snagging allowed in above waters except in Lake Mary Ronan and Clearwater drainage.

Ashley, Little Bitterroot, Swan and Tally Lakes—Thirty-five (35) salmon daily and seventy (70) in possession.

Georgetown Lake and tributaries—no daily or possession limits.

All other lakes and streams where fishing is permitted—Twenty (20) salmon daily and in possession.

Snagging

During snagging season, same as above

except

Lake Mary Ronan—Twenty (20) salmon daily and in possession.

Clearwater drainage—Thirty-five (35) salmon daily and 70 in possession.

LIMIT 6.

Whitefish—One hundred (100) fish daily and in possession including fish taken for sale.

LIMIT 7.

Burbot (ling)—Five (5) fish daily and in possession.

It shall be unlawful to take or possess any **sturgeon** of the genus Acipenser **(white sturgeon).**

FISHING SEASONS

STANDARD SEASONS

Apply to all waters except those listed in Exceptions—Restrictive or Special Regulations; (these waters are marked with color on map.)

STREAMS—Open third Saturday in May through November.

LAKES—Open entire year.

EXCEPTIONS—RESTRICTIVE

(marked with color on map)

STREAMS IN FLATHEAD, KOOTENAI AND SWAN RIVER DRAINAGES.

Closed Entire Year:

Ashley Creek from Thompson Falls public water supply intake to its source

All tributaries to Ashley Lake

Crow Creek and its tributaries upstream of intake from Ronan water supply to its source

Donaldson Creek tributary of Lake Mary Ronan

Flower Creek and its artificial impoundments from Power Dam to its source, excluding the natural lakes

Freeland Creek, tributary of Lake Mary Ronan

Haskell Creek and tributaries from Whitefish public water intake to its source

Hell Roaring Creek, water supply for Polson, and its lakes from outlet of lower lake to its source

Herrig Creek, tributary to Little Bitterroot Lake

Hot Springs Creek and its tributaries from Hot Springs public water supply intake to its source

Middle Fork Flathead River tributaries: Granite, Morrison, Lodgepole, Long creeks and their tributaries

North Fork Flathead River tributaries: Big Creek, Coal Creek and all their tributaries, Whale Creek and its tributaries below Whale Creek Falls, Trail Creek (Yakinikak) and its tributaries downstream from mouth of Thoma Creek

O'Brien Creek from Troy city water intake to a point one-fourth (¼) mile upstream as posted

Rogers Lake spawning inlet

South Fork of Flathead River downstream from Hungry Horse Dam to "Devil's Elbow" as posted

Swan River tributaries: Elk, Goat, Lion, and Squeezer creeks and their tributaries

STREAMS IN CLARK FORK, BLACKFOOT AND BITTERROOT RIVER DRAINAGES:

Closed Entire Year:

Basin Creek from lower Butte water supply reservoir dam to its source, including all reservoirs and tributaries

Rattlesnake Creek and tributary streams from Missoula water supply dam of Mountain Water Company to the mouth of Beeskove Creek

Silver Creek upstream from Saltese water supply intake

Open July 1 through November—Stream tributary to Medicine Lake near Philipsburg

LAKES AND RESERVOIRS

Closed Entire Year:

All ponds in the east half of Section 7, T 5N, R9W, Deer Lodge County (Wildlife Management Ponds).

Cedar Creek impoundment (Columbia Falls water supply)

Libby Dam structure as posted and the buoyed area immediately upstream from the spillway

Fred Burr Lake (Philipsburg water supply)

Closed as posted from October 1 until spawn taking is completed—Hatchery Bay of Flathead Lake at Somers

Open third Saturday in May through September—Kilbrennan Lake

Open third Saturday in May through March 15 of following year—Lake Mary Ronan

Open December 1 through September of following year—Loon Lake tributary to Pipe Creek, 15 miles northwest of Libby

Open third Saturday in May through March of following year—Georgetown Lake and Echo Lake near Anaconda

Open July 1 through April—Medicine Lake near Philipsburg

EXCEPTIONS—LIBERAL

STREAMS OPEN ENTIRE YEAR:

- Ashley Creek below Smith Lake
- Big Blackfoot River downstream from Scotty Brown bridge
- Bitterroot River downstream from Florence Bridge
- Clark Fork River downstream from Anaconda Company Settling Pond System Spillway
- Clearwater River below Lake Inez fish barrier
- Flathead River below Kerr Dam
- Kootenai River
- Little Bitterroot River downstream from its tunnel
- Rattlesnake Creek upstream from Beeskove Creek
- Stillwater River from mouth of Sunday Creek to Lower Stillwater Lake
- Whitefish River from Whitefish Lake to Montana State Highway 40 Bridge

EXTENDED WHITEFISH SEASON—Open December through March of following year—All streams except:

- Waters closed entire year
- Waters posted closed

EXTENDED WINTER WHITEFISH & CATCH AND RELEASE TROUT SEASON—Open December through third Saturday in May for whitefish and catch and release with artificial lures for trout only on the following streams:

- Bitterroot River above Florence Bridge
- All ditches, canals and sloughs in the Bitterroot River valley between U.S. 93 and the east side highway between Hamilton and Florence
- Little Blackfoot River
- Swan River from Swan Lake to Bigfork Dam

COMMERCIAL WHITEFISH FISHING—Open third Saturday in May through March of the following year—for the catching of whitefish for commercial sale:

- Bitterroot River
- Blackfoot River
- Clark Fork River, including mainstream impoundments
- Flathead Lake and Flathead River from junction of North Fork and South Forks to Clark Fork
- Kootenai River Drainage from Libby Dam to Idaho border

BOW AND ARROW AND SNAGGING—All waters open to angling are open to bow and arrow hunting and snagging nongame fish.

SNAGGING FOR SALMON

Open October 15 through November

- Lake Mary Ronan

Open September 15 through December

- all waters except:
  - Lake Mary Ronan
  - Flathead Lake, and all streams in drainage north of lake, Swan River below Big Fork Dam, Brenneman Slough, and Whitefish Lake which are closed entire year to snagging
  - Waters closed entire year

SPEAR FISHING—Persons swimming or submerged may take nongame fish with rubber- or spring-propelled spears in all waters open to fishing except:

- Abbott Lake near Bigfork
- Blanchard Lake near Whitefish
- Echo Lake near Bigfork
- Horseshoe Lake near Ferndale
- Lake Blaine near Kalispell
- Lake Mary Ronan
- Loon Lake near Ferndale
- Lower, Middle and Upper Thompson lakes
- Murphy Lake near Fortine
- Peterson Lake near Bigfork

Open through the ice only—Northern pike and nongame fish may be taken by spear or gig:

- Blanchard Lake near Whitefish
- Echo Lake near Bigfork
- Lion Lake
- Upper and Lower Stillwater lakes

SPECIAL REGULATIONS

(waters marked with yellow on map)

ANACONDA SETTLING POND

All waters in Anaconda Company settling pond system near town of Warm Springs as posted, **open May 25 through September for catch-and-release fishing. Artificial lures only.** See "Lures and Bait" under Standard Statewide Regulations.

BOB MARSHALL WILDERNESS COMPLEX

All lakes and streams in the Blackfoot, South Fork Flathead and Middle Fork Flathead river drainages within the boundaries of the Bob Marshall, Great Bear and Scapegoat Wilderness Areas.

Limit 1

For Streams—Three (3) fish none of which (except bull trout) may exceed 12 inches. Only one bull trout may be included in the three (3) fish limit and it can be any length.

For Lakes—Three (3) fish including only one (1) bull trout.

Limits 2 through 7 are the same as those listed under Daily and Possession limits for the rest of the fishing district.

PORTIONS OF CLARK FORK AND BITTERROOT RIVERS

Clark Fork River—From Anaconda Company settling pond system spillway to Perkins Lane Bridge. Bitterroot River—from Stevensville Bridge to Florence Bridge and one (1) mile downstream from Darby Bridge to Como Bridge. Artificial lures only. See "Lures and Bait" under Standard Statewide Regulations.

Limit 1—Brown trout, cutthroat trout, rainbow trout, bull trout (Dolly Varden). Five (5) fish per day under 14 inches OR four (4) fish under 14 inches and one (1) over 18 inches.

Limits 2 through 7 are the same as those listed under Daily and Possession Limits for the rest of the fishing district.

FLATHEAD RIVER

Flathead River from State Highway 35 Bridge to Old Steel Bridge

December 1 through April 30—Catch and release with artificial lures only. See "Lures and Bait" under Standard Statewide Regulations.

Limit 1—Brown trout, cutthroat trout, rainbow trout, golden trout, lake trout, grayling and bull trout (Dolly Varden) catch and release only.

Limits 2 through 7 are the same as those under Daily and Possession limits for the rest of the fishing district.

LIBBY DAM

Fishing from boats or other floating craft is prohibited in Kootenai River from Libby Dam approximately 500 yards downstream to David Thompson bridge as posted.

RATTLESNAKE CREEK

Rattlesnake Creek upstream from the mouth of Beeskove Creek—open entire year. Catch-and-release fishing only. Artificial lures only; see "Lures and Bait" under Standard Statewide Regulations.

ROCK CREEK

Rock Creek near Clinton from mouth of Butte Cabin Creek to mouth of Big Hogback Creek. Third Saturday in May through November. Artificial lures only; see "Lures and Bait" under Standard Statewide Regulations.

Limit 1—Brown trout, cutthroat trout, rainbow trout, bull trout (Dolly Varden). Catch and release only.

Limits 2 through 7 are the same as those listed under Daily and Possession limits for the rest of the fishing district.

Rock Creek from its mouth to mouth of Butte Cabin Creek and from mouth of Big Hogback Creek to mouth of West Fork of Rock Creek. Third Saturday in May through November, artificial lures only, for persons 15 years and older. Fisherman 14 years and younger may use bait. See "Lures and Bait" under Standard Statewide Regulations.

Limit 1—Brown trout, cutthroat trout, rainbow trout, bull trout (Dolly Varden). Three (3) fish per day, only one (1) of which may exceed 14 inches. This is both a daily and possession limit.

Limits 2 through 7 are the same as those listed under Daily and Possession limits for the rest of the fishing district.

SOUTH FORK FLATHEAD RIVER

South Fork Flathead River from Meadow Creek bridge down to Spotted Bear footbridge

Third Saturday in May through November—catch and release for cutthroat trout only with artificial lures only. See "Lures and Bait" under Standard Statewide Regulations.

Limit 1. Brown trout, rainbow trout, golden trout, lake trout, grayling and bull trout (Dolly Varden)—five (5) fish only one of which may exceed 14 inches. No more than one (1) bull trout (Dolly Varden) may be included in the daily catch

Limits 2 through 7 are the same as those listed under Daily and Possession limits for the rest of the fishing district.

THOMPSON RIVER

Thompson River from mouth of West Fork Thompson River to mouth of Deerhorn Creek

Third Saturday in May through November—catch and release with artificial lures only. See "Lures and Bait" under Standard Statewide Regulations.

Limit 1—Brown trout, cutthroat trout, rainbow trout, golden trout, lake trout, grayling and bull trout (Dolly Varden) **catch and release only.**

Limits 2 through 7 are the same as those listed under Daily and Possession limits for the rest of the fishing district.

WOODS LAKE

Entire year—catch and release with artificial lures only. See "Lures and Bait" under Standard Statewide Regulations.

Limit 1—Brown trout, cutthroat trout, rainbow trout, golden trout, lake trout, grayling and bull trout (Dolly Varden) **catch and release only.**

Limit 2 through 7 are the same as those listed under Daily and Possession limits for the rest of the fishing district.

BAIT

(Use of Live Fish for Bait)

Sculpins (Cottus) are the only fish that may be used live as bait. See "Lures and Bait" under Standard Statewide Regulations.

COMMERCIAL BAIT FISH SEINING

Sculpins may be harvested for commercial purposes in accordance with ARM Section 12.7.201-12.7.206 from all waters with a four (4) foot screen or net as provided in the general fishing regulations. Any individual taking nongame fish for sale or commercial distribution must possess a commercial bait fish seining license.

Bait fish may not be imported into or exported from the state of Montana for commercial or other purposes by a licensee or other person.

Not valid on Indian Reservation water; for information contact local tribal officials.

NETS

(Use of)

Landing nets may be used for landing hooked fish.

The use of nets or traps for catching fish other than sculpins (Cottus) is prohibited. This does not prohibit the use of a landing net for landing hooked fish. A screen or net not to exceed four (4) feet in length may be used to take sculpins (Cottus).

CENTRAL FISHING DISTRICT

(also see Standard Statewide Regulations)

STANDARD DAILY AND POSSESSION LIMITS

Unless otherwise specified, (see Special Regulations) the following limits are both daily and possession limits.

Each fisherman may take all of the following limits: However, a person may possess only the limit allowed for the water on which he is fishing.

LIMIT 1.

Brown trout, cutthroat trout, rainbow trout, golden trout, lake trout and grayling.

On Streams—Five (5) fish, only one (1) of which may exceed 18 inches, except for Warm Springs Creek, near Lewistown, and Little Bighorn River where the limit is ten (10) fish. On the Madison River only one of the five (5) fish may be a grayling. In the Big Hole River drainage only one of the five (5) fish may be a grayling which must be over 13 inches. In the Sun River drainage below U.S. Forest Service Administrative Boundary, of the five fish, only one (1) grayling may exceed 13 inches.

or

On Lakes—Ten (10) pounds and one (1) fish not to exceed ten (10) fish. Two (2) fish may be taken regardless of weight limit

except

Clark Canyon Reservoir, Harrison Reservoir, Newlan Creek Reservoir, and Wood Lake where the limit is five (5) fish.

LIMIT 2.

Brook trout—Ten (10) pounds not to exceed twenty (20) fish.

LIMIT 3.

Bass, sauger, walleye—Five (5) fish in any combination.

LIMIT 4.

Northern pike—Five (5) fish.

LIMIT 5.

Salmon—Ten (10) fish except during snagging season when daily limit shall be thirty-five (35) and seventy (70) in possession.

LIMIT 6.

Whitefish—One hundred (100) fish daily and in possession including those taken for sale.

There is no number limit on **catfish, burbot (ling), sturgeon and nongame fish.**

Fish Weight Limits (Sturgeon):

The maximum weight sturgeon (genus Scaphirhynchus) which may be taken is 16 pounds.

FISHING SEASONS

STANDARD SEASONS

Apply to to all waters except those listed in Exceptions—Restrictive or Special Regulations; (these waters are marked with color on map.)

STREAMS—Open third Saturday in May through November.

LAKES—Open entire year.

Central Fishing District Continued

EXCEPTIONS—RESTRICTIVE

(waters marked with color on map)

STREAMS

Closed Entire Year:

Missouri River immediately downstream of Canyon Ferry Dam as posted

Missouri River—fishing from Holter Dam, abutment and spillway structures below the Dam

Midvale Creek and Intake Reservoir from intake of Glacier Park Hotel Company water supply to Glacier Park boundary

O'Brien Creek upstream of Neihart public water intake

Toston Dam structure as posted

Willow Creek and its tributaries from White Sulphur Springs public water intake to its source

The following streams are closed entire year from city water supply intake to a point one thousand (1,000) feet upstream as posted:

Bozeman (Sourdough) Creek, near Bozeman

Indian Creek near Sheridan

Lyman Creek near Bozeman

Middle Fork Hyalite Creek near Bozeman

Rattlesnake Creek near Dillon

West Fork of Rock Creek at Red Lodge

Open third Saturday in July through November—East Fork and West Fork of Hyalite Creek

Open third Saturday in June through November:

Norwegian Creek

South Willow Creek and North Willow Creek downstream from the Highway 287 bridges at Harrison to Willow Creek Reservoir (also see restriction below on Willow Creek Arm of Harrison Lake).

Open third Saturday in May through September—Boulder River from its mouth (near Cardwell) upstream approximately four airline miles to the bridge in T2N, R3W, S24

Open August 1 through November:

Lightning Creek

LAKES AND RESERVOIRS

Closed Entire Year:

A portion of Lake Frances around Conrad water supply outlet as posted

Hauser Dam structure and adjacent water as posted

Open third Saturday in May through February of following year:

Wade Lake (Madison County)

Willow Creek Arm of Harrison Reservoir as posted (also, see restrictions above on North and South Willow creeks)

Open third Saturday in June through November:

Goose Lake (Madison County)

Hidden Lake (Madison County)

Otter Lake (Madison County)

Open second Saturday in June through February of following year:

Eyraud (Arod) Lakes

Closed between the hours of 12:00 midnight and 5:00 a.m. Mountain Standard Time or Daylight Savings Time, whichever is in effect:

Holter Reservoir

EXCEPTIONS—LIBERAL

STREAMS OPEN ENTIRE YEAR:

- Alder Gulch Creek and Dredge Ponds from the mouth to Virginia City
- Beaverhead River downstream of Pipeorgan Bridge
- Bell Creek downstream of bridge at Riceville
- Big Spring Creek (Main Stem) Fergus County
- Bighorn River
- Bluewater Creek
- Boulder River (Main Stem) Park and Sweet Grass County
- Clarks Fork Yellowstone River
- Cut Bank Creek downstream of Blackfeet Indian Reservation boundary
- Dearborn River downstream from bridge on Highway 434
- East Gallatin River downstream from mouth of Bozeman (Sourdough) Creek
- Gallatin River
- Jefferson River
- Little Bighorn River
- Madison River from Hebgen Dam to Varney Bridge and downstream of Ennis Lake
- Marias River
- Mill Creek in Madison County
- Missouri River
- Red Lodge Creek downstream from Cooney Dam
- Rock Creek (Main Stem) Carbon County
- Ruby River downstream from Ruby Dam
- Smith River downstream from the confluence of North and South Forks Smith River
- Stillwater River (Main Stem) Stillwater County
- Sun River downstream from Gibson Dam
- Teton River downstream from U.S. Highway 89
- Warm Springs Creek in Fergus County
- Yellowstone River

Open third Saturday in May through February of the following year:

Madison River from Varney Bridge to Ennis Lake

Open December 1 to third Saturday in May—for catch-and-release fishing only, artificial lures only; see "Lures and Bait" under Standard Statewide Regulations:

Poindexter Slough

EXTENDED WHITEFISH SEASON—Open December 1 to the third Saturday in May:

- Big Hole River
- North Fork Big Hole River
- Red Rock River below Lima Reservoir
- Steel Creek
- Yellowstone River drainage, all waters

COMMERCIAL WHITEFISH FISHING—Open entire year for the catching of whitefish for commercial sale:

- Missouri River from Holter Dam to Black Eagle Dam
- Yellowstone River

Open year-around for Brook Trout—Tributaries of Big Hole River upstream from Divide Dam and Big Hole River and tributaries upstream from bridge at Wisdom.

BOW AND ARROW AND SNAGGING—All waters open to angling are open to bow and arrow hunting and snagging of nongame fish.

SNAGGING FOR SALMON—Open September 1 through December:

- Helena Valley Regulating Reservoir
- Pishkun Reservoir

SETLINE FISHING—Anglers may use up to six (6) unattended setlines with up to six (6) hooks per line in the following waters, each overnight setline must be clearly marked with owner's name and address

Open entire year:

- Clarks Fork Yellowstone River downstream of bridge at Bridger
- Lake Frances, except portion closed as posted
- Little Bighorn River
- Marias River
- Pishkun Reservoir
- Split Rock Lake
- Yellowstone River downstream of mouth of Clarks Fork

Open through the ice only:

- Canyon Ferry Reservoir
- Hauser Lake
- Helena Valley Reservoir
- Holter Reservoir—setline fishing prohibited from 12:00 midnight to 5:00 a.m.
- Lake Helena

Open second Saturday in June through February of following year—Eyraud (Arod) Lakes.

SPEAR FISHING—Persons swimming or submerged may take certain fish with rubber- or spring-propelled spears in waters open to fishing as follows:

Nongame fish and burbot (ling)—All waters open to fishing

Five (5) whitefish daily—Missouri River between bridges at Craig and Sheep Creek

Open December 1 through February of following year—Northern pike, and nongame fish may be taken by spear or gig from Eyraud (Arod) Lakes.

Open through the ice only—Northern pike, walleye, sauger, burbot (ling), and nongame fish may be taken by spear or gig from:

- Lake Frances except portion closed as posted
- Pishkun Reservoir
- Split Rock Lake

SPECIAL REGULATIONS

(waters marked with yellow on map)

CHILDREN'S FISHING WATERS

Open as posted to persons twelve (12) years of age and under the entire year

Fairgrounds Pond, Helena (yellow color also applies to Spring Meadow Lake)

Virginia City children's fishing pond

ARMSTRONG SPRING CREEK (Park County)

Armstrong Spring Creek from its confluence with the Yellowstone River to its source—year around. Catch-and-release fishing only. **Artificial lures only**; see "Lures and Bait" under Standard Statewide Regulations.

BIG HOLE RIVER

Big Hole River from Divide Dam to Melrose Bridge — Third Saturday in May through November. **Artificial lures only**; see "Lures and Bait" under Standard Statewide Regulations.

Limit 1—Daily and Possession Limit

Trout — three (3) fish per day under 13 inches and one (1) fish per day over 22 inches.

Grayling—one (1) fish per day and it must be over 13 inches

Limits 2 through 6 are the same as those listed under Daily and Possession limits for the rest of the fishing district.

BIGHORN RIVER

Afterbay Dam to I-90 at Hardin:

Limit 1—five (5) trout only one (1) of which may be over 18 inches, only one (1) of which may be a rainbow.

Limits 2 through 6 are the same as listed under Daily and Possession limits for the rest of the fishing district.

Artificial lures only (See "Lures and Bait" under Standard Statewide Regulations) from cable crossing the river approximately 600 feet downstream from Afterbay Dam to Bighorn Access area. The operation of any motor, or engine of any description on any vessel is prohibited from Bighorn River Afterbay Dam to Bighorn Access area except for official patrol, search and rescue, or for scientific purposes.

GALLATIN RIVER

Gallatin River from Yellowstone National Park boundary to its confluence with East Gallatin River shall be closed to fishing from boats

MADISON RIVER DRAINAGE

Madison River from Quake Lake outlet to McAtee Bridge - catch-and-release fishing only for trout and grayling. **Artificial lures only.** See "Lures and Bait" under Standard Statewide Regulations.

Madison River from McAtee Bridge to Ennis Lake **-sculpins not allowed for bait.**

Limit 1 - Daily and Possession Limit Trout and grayling - Five (5) fish per day, only one (1) of which may exceed 18 inches, and only one (1) of which may be a rainbow and only one (1) fish may be a grayling.

Limits 2 through 6 are the same as those listed under Daily and Possession Limits for the rest of the fishing district.

Darlington Ditch (Darlinton Spring Creek) on Cobblestone Fishing Access Site (near Logan) - **Catch-and-release fishing only for trout and grayling. Artificial lures only.**

Madison River from Earthquake Lake outlet to Lyon Bridge (New West Fork Madison River Bridge) and from McAtee Bridge to Varney Bridge shall be closed to fishing from boats.

NELSON SPRING CREEK (Park County)

Nelson Spring Creek from its confluence with the Yellowstone River to its source - **third Saturday in May through November. Catch-and-release fishing only. Artificial lures only**; see "Lures and Bait" under Standard Statewide Regulations.

RIVERS, STREAMS AND LAKES WITHIN THE NATIONAL FOREST ADMINISTRATIVE BOUNDARY FROM U.S. HIGHWAY 2 NEAR EAST GLACIER TO HIGHWAY 200 NEAR ROGERS PASS.

Limit 1

For Streams: Rainbow and cutthroat trout, three (3) fish none of which may be over 12 inches. Catch and release only for grayling.

For Lakes: Rainbow and cutthroat trout (3) three fish

except

Wood Lake where the limit will be five (5) fish.

Limits 2 through 6 are the same as listed under Daily and Possession Limits for the rest of the fishing district.

This includes but is not limited to waters in the following drainages: Badger Creek, Deep Creek, Elk Creek, Falls Creek, Ford Creek, North and South Forks of Birch Creek, North Fork of Dearborn River, North and South Forks of Dupuyer Creek, North and South Forks of Teton River, Railroad Creek, Smith Creek, South Fork Two Medicine River and Sun River.

SILVER CREEK

Silver Creek in Lewis and Clark County is open to **catch-and-release fishing only** from Gold Sil Mine, as posted, to Green Meadow Drive.

SMITH RIVER

Smith River downstream from the confluence of Rock Creek to the Eden (Hantsberges) Bridge. **Artificial lures for trout only.** See "Lures and Bait" under Standard Statewide Regulations.

Limit 1 - Daily and Possession limit. Rainbow, brown, and cutthroat trout - three (3) fish under 13 inches and one (1) fish per day over 22 inches.

Limits 2 through 6 - are the same as those listed under Daily and Possession limits for the rest of the fishing district

SPRING MEADOW LAKE

(yellow color also applies to Fairgrounds Pond, Helena)

One (1) trout or bass.

Other species - no limit

Closed to the use of any motor propelled water craft except for official patrol, search and rescue, or for scientific purposes.

YELLOWSTONE RIVER

Yellowstone National Park boundary to Emigrant Bridge

Limit 1 - Rainbow or brown trout five (5) fish with only one (1) over 18 inches. **Catch-and-release only for cutthroat trout.**

Limits 2 through 6 are the same as those listed under Daily and Possession Limits for the rest of the fishing district.

Emigrant Bridge to Pine Creek Bridge. **Artificial lures only** (See "Lures and Bait") under Standard Statewide Regulations.

Limit 1 - Daily and Possession Limit brown and rainbow trout - four (4) fish per day under 13 inches and one (1) fish per day over 22 inches. **Catch and release only for cutthroat trout. Artifical lures only.**

Limits 2 through 5 are the same as those listed under Daily and Possession limits for the rest of the fishing district.

Limit 6 - Whitefish - one hundred (100) fish daily and in possession including those taken for sale. Whitefishing, with bait will be allowed December 1 through third Saturday in May.

BAIT

(Use of Live Fish for Bait)

The use of sculpins (Cottus) is allowed in all waters except Madison River between McAtee Bridge and Ennis Lake. Other nongame fish (except carp, goldfish or rainbow smelt) may be used in:

- Bighorn Lake and its Afterbay Reservoir
- Bighorn River (except portion with artificial lures only, see Special Regulations)
- Clarks Fork Yellowstone River downstream from bridge at Bridger
- Little Bighorn River from its mouth to mouth of Lodge Grass Creek
- Marias River
- Muddy Creek drainage near Vaughn in all streams and drainage canals
- Musselshell River downstream from irrigation diversion near Cushman
- Yellowstone River downstream from mouth of Clarks Fork

COMMERCIAL BAIT FISH SEINING

Nongame bait fish (except carp, goldfish and rainbow smelt) may be harvested for commercial purposes in accordance with ARM Section 12.7.201-12.7.206 from the following waters: Marias River and Muddy Creek. Sculpins may be taken from all waters with a four (4) foot screen or net as provided in the general fishing regulations.

Any individual taking nongame fish for sale or commercial distribution must possess a commercial bait fish seining license.

Not valid on Indian reservation water; for information contact local tribal officials.

NETS

(Use of)

Landing nets may be used for landing hooked fish.

In waters where use of live fish other than sculpins (Cottus) is allowed for bait, nongame species may be taken:

1. With seines not to exceed twelve (12) feet in length and four (4) feet in width; or
2. With minnow traps not to exceed eighteen (18) inches in length and ten (10) inches in diameter.

A screen or net not to exceed four (4) feet in length may be used to take sculpins (Cottus).

EASTERN FISHING DISTRICT

(also see Standard Statewide Regulations)

STANDARD DAILY AND POSSESSION LIMITS

Unless otherwise specified, (see Special Regulations) the following limits are both daily and possession limits.

Each fisherman may take all of the following limits: However a person may possess only the limit allowed for the water on which he is fishing

LIMIT 1.

Salmon, grayling and whitefish and all trout, except lake trout—ten (10) fish in any combination.

LIMIT 2.

Lake trout—five (5) fish

LIMIT 3.

Walleye and sauger—ten (10) fish in any combination, except for a portion of Fort Peck Reservoir - see Special Regulations

LIMIT 4.

Northern pike—five (5) fish, except Nelson Reservoir where there will be no number limit

LIMIT 5.

Bass (largemouth and smallmouth)—ten (10) fish in any combination

LIMIT 6.

Paddlefish—one (1) fish daily and two (2) fish in possession, except for Yellowstone River - see Special Regulations below

There is no number limit on **catfish, burbot (ling), sturgeon and nongame fish**

Fish Weight Limits (Sturgeon):

The maximum weight sturgeon (genus Scaphirhynchus) which may be taken is 16 pounds.

FISHING SEASONS

STANDARD SEASONS

Apply to all waters except those listed in **Exceptions—Restrictive or Special Regulations**; (these waters are marked with color on map.)

All waters open entire year

EXCEPTIONS—RESTRICTIVE

(waters marked with color on map)

Closed entire year:

Giant Springs at Great Falls—that portion enclosed by concrete walks and masonry work.

Missouri River downstream from outlet tunnels of Fort Peck Dam as posted

Missouri River immediately downstream from Morony Dam as posted

Wind Creek (Blaine County) from Clear Creek road crossing to its source, excluding Ross Reservoir

Closed May 1 through July 14 to fishing or snagging from boats:

Yellowstone River from Intake Diversion to approximately one-quarter (¼) mile downstream as posted. Also see Special Regulations.

Open third Saturday in May through November:

Streams south of Highway 2 which originate in Bearpaw Mountains

Open February through October:

Rush Hall Pond (Fallon County)

EXCEPTIONS—LIBERAL

Bow and Arrow and Snagging—All waters open to angling are open to bow and arrow hunting and snagging of paddlefish and nongame fish except a portion of Yellowstone River, see Special Regulations.

SETLINE FISHING—Anglers may use up to six (6) unattended setlines with up to six (6) hooks per line in following waters:

Open Entire Year:

- Arapooish Pond near Hardin
- Beaver Creek in Valley and Phillips counties
- Big Muddy Creek
- Ester Reservoir
- a portion of Fort Peck Reservoir (see Special Regulations)
- Frenchman Creek (excluding Frenchman Reservoir)
- Lake Elwell (Tiber Reservoir) (see note below)
- Lone Tree Creek and its impoundments in Valley Co.
- Marias River
- Milk River and its impoundments (including Fresno Reservoir)
- Missouri River downstream from Morony Dam (excluding river and dredge cuts between Fort Peck Dam and mouth of Milk River)
- Musselshell River
- Nelson Reservoir (see note below)
- Poplar River
- Redwater River
- Teton River
- All streams in Yellowstone River Drainage, (not including Tongue River Reservoir)

Note: In Tiber Reservoir each overnight setline must be clearly marked with owners' name and address. In Nelson Reservoir each setline must be clearly marked with owners name, address and setlines may not be suspended from free-floating devices such as jugs. However, floats or bobbers attached to poles or bank lines are allowed.

Open through the ice only—

All lakes and reservoirs.

Open April 1 through November—

Anglers may use up to two (2) attended or unattended lines with not more than two (2) hooks per line in:

Fort Peck Reservoir downstream from a line between Heaby Point and number 6 navigation sign at South Fork Duck Creek including Big Dry Arm and the Missouri River and dredge cuts (including Dredge Cut Trout Pond) from Fort Peck Dam to mouth of Milk River. These lines shall not be suspended from free-floating devices such as jugs. However, floats or bobbers attached to poles or bank lines are allowed

In remainder of Fort Peck Reservoir six (6) setlines (including jugs) are allowed.

SPEAR FISHING—Persons swimming or submerged may take certain fish with rubber— or spring-propelled spears in waters open to fishing as follows:

Nongame fish and burbot (ling)—All waters open to fishing

Game fish—Fort Peck, Nelson, and Tongue River reservoirs.

Open through the ice only—northern pike, walleye, sauger, burbot (ling), and nongame fish may be taken by spear or gig from all waters open to fishing.

SPECIAL REGULATIONS

(waters marked with yellow on map)

FORT PECK RESERVOIR

Fort Peck Reservoir downstream from a line between Heaby Point and number 6 navigation sign at South Fork Duck Creek including Big Dry Arm.

Limit 3. Walleye and sauger—five (5) fish daily and in possession in any combination.

Limits 1, 2, 4, 5, and 6 are the same as listed under Daily and Possession Limits for the rest of the fishing district. In remainder of reservoir the daily and possession limit for walleye and sauger shall be ten (10) fish in any combination.

MISSOURI RIVER

Missouri River from Fort Peck Dam to Milk River:

Limit 1. Rainbow trout—two (2) fish daily and in possession. Salmon, grayling, whitefish and all trout except rainbow trout and lake trout—ten (10) fish in any combination.

Limits 2 through 6 are the same as listed under Daily and Possession Limits for the rest of the fishing district.

YELLOWSTONE RIVER

Yellowstone River downstream from mouth of Bighorn River

From May 1 through July 14 snagging of paddlefish shall be allowed and the snagging of nongame fish prohibited

Paddlefish limit is two (2) per year. Any paddlefish caught must be tagged immediately and counted in this limit. Two (2) tags per licensed angler are available for $3 from all Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks headquarters and from several license dealers in Eastern Montana. See tagging instructions available at those locations.

Also see Exceptions Restrictive

BAIT

(Use of Live Fish for Bait)

The use of sculpins (Cottus) is allowed in all waters. Other nongame fish (except carp, goldfish or rainbow smelt) may be used in:

Missouri River Drainage

- Bainville Railroad Ponds in Roosevelt County
- Cole Ponds in Phillips County
- Dredge Cut Trout Pond
- Engstrom Reservoir in Sheridan County
- Ester Reservoir in Phillips County
- Flat Lake in McCone County
- Fort Peck Reservoir
- Frenchman Reservoir in Phillips County
- Killenbeck Reservoir in Daniels County
- Kuester Reservoir in Richland County
- Little Warm Reservoir in Phillips County
- Lone Tree Creek impoundments in Valley Co.
- McChesney Reservoir in Phillips County
- Milk River and its impoundments below Fresno Reservoir
- Nelson Reservoir in Phillips County
- Petrolia Reservoir
- Raymond Reservoir in Sheridan County
- Sam Lee Reservoir in Dawson County
- Tiber Reservoir
- Whitetail Reservoir in Daniels County
- All streams and rivers except:
  - Milk River and its tributaries above Fresno Reservoir,
  - Missouri River upstream from Morony Dam.
  - Streams south of Highway 2 which originate in Bearpaw Mountains,

Yellowstone River Drainage

- Arapooish Pond near Hardin
- Baker Lake in Fallon County
- Castle Rock Lake in Rosebud County
- Lame Steer Reservoir in Wibaux County
- Lindsay Reservoir in Dawson County
- South Sandstone Reservoir in Fallon County
- Spotted Eagle Pond in Custer County
- Tauck's Reservoir in Carter County
- Tongue River Reservoir
- all streams and rivers

COMMERCIAL BAIT FISH SEINING

Nongame bait fish (except carp, goldfish and rainbow smelt) may be harvested for commercial purposes in accordance with ARM section 12.7.201-12.7.206 from the following waters: Any individual taking nongame fish for sale or commercial distribution must possess a commercial bait fish seining license

Streams and reservoirs listed as open to the use of all nongame fish (except carp, goldfish and rainbow smelt) for bait except:

1. Big Dry and Little Dry Creek north of Highway 200 in Garfield County.
2. Hanging Woman Creek downstream from the Birney Road to its confluence with the Tongue River.
3. Otter Creek downstream from U.S. Highway 212 to its confluence with the Tongue River.
4. Lone Tree Creek and Fox Creek, tributaries to the Yellowstone River in Richland County.
5. Petrolia Reservoir.

Certain other waters may be opened upon request. Apply to regional FWP office.

Bait fish may not be imported into or exported from the state of Montana for commercial or other purposes by a licensee or other person.

Not valid on Indian Reservation water; for information contact local tribal officials.

NETS

(Use of)

Landing nets may be used for landing hooked fish.

A screen or net not to exceed four (4) feet in length may be used to take sculpins (Cottus).

Hoop Nets—Hoop nets without wings or leads may be used to take nongame fish, catfish, burbot (ling), and sturgeon in Yellowstone River downstream from mouth of Bighorn River (except for approximately two hundred (200) yards below all irrigation diversion dams), Milk River downstream from Highway 2 bridge below Dodson Dam except from Vandalia Dam to a point one-quarter (¼) mile downstream, and in Missouri River below mouth of Milk River. Each net must be clearly marked with owner's name and address.

Minnow Seines and Traps—In all waters where use of live fish other than sculpins (Cottus) is allowed for bait, nongame species may be taken:

1. With a seine not to exceed twelve (12) feet in length and four (4) feet in width; or
2. With minnow traps not to exceed eighteen (18) inches in length and ten (10) inches in diameter.